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THE

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Canada,

AT ITS SESSIONS AT TORONTO,

JUNE 14–21, 1854.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD.

TORONTO:

PRINTED BY JAMES CLELAND, YONGE STREET.

1854.

Officers of Synod, 1854-55.

Rev. HENRY GORDON, Gananoque, *Moderator.*

Rev. WILLIAM REID, A. M., *Clerk of Synod, and General Agent for the Schemes of the Church.*

S. SPREULL, Esq., *Treasurer of Bursary Fund.*

J. REDPATH, Esq., Montreal, *Treasurer for Foreign and Jewish Missions.*

☞ *For the various Committees of Synod, see Appendix.*

MEETING OF SYNOD.

FIRST DIET.

At Toronto, the 14th day of June, 1854, the which day the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada met, and after sermon by Rev. Thomas Wightman, Acting Moderator, from Rev. i., 13, "And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of Man," was constituted.

The Synod Roll was made up, and called.

[*The names of Members in attendance are marked with an asterisk.*]

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Henry Gordon.....	*T. Henning.....	Gananoque.
*James Rogers.....	.....	Demorestville.
.....	Samuel Anderson.....	Picton.
*W. Gregg, A. M.....	Geo. Robertson.....	Belleville.
*Robt. F. Burns.....	*James Stewart.....	Kingston, Chalmers' Ch.
*Andrew Wilson.....	.....	Do. Brock st., Ch.
James W. Chesnut.....	.....	Madoc.
.....	.....	Roslin and Melrose.

William Gregg, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

William Smart.....	.....	Yonge, &c., (Missionary Stations.)
*Robert Boyd.....	.....	Prescott.
James Geggie.....	.....	Spencerville & Edwardsburgh.
*John McMurray.....	.....	Brockville.
*W. J. McDowell.....	.....	South Gower and Kemptville.
		Bellamyville, Bishops Mills & Merrickville.
		Charleston, Farmersville, &c. &c.
		Newboro, Westport, &c.

John McMurray, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
W. Lochead.....	Thomas Duncan.....	Osgoode and Gloucester.
*S. C. Fraser, A. M.....	John Storie	McNab and Horton.
*Thomas Wardrope.....	*Donald Kennedy.....	Bytown.
*Andrew Melville.....	William Bell...	Pembroke.
John Corbett.....	Thomas McNair.....	Wakefield.
*Peter Gray.....	John McDonald.....	Beckwith.
*J. B. Duncan.....	Thomas Nicol.....	Perth.
*John Gourlay.....	John Clark.....	Aylmer and Nepean.
*James Smith, A. M.....	*Andrew Toshach.....	Ramsay.
	William King.....	Bristol.
	W. Cuthbertson.....	Dalhousie.
	Robert Kennedy.....	Goulburn.

S. C. FRASER, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

W. McAlister.....	.....	Metis.
*W. B. Clark.....	*O. L. Richardson.....	Quebec.
David Black.....	A. Kimpton.....	St. Therese de Blainville.
Thomas Henry.....	John Maquet.....	Lachute.
David Inglis.....	*James Court.....	Montreal, St. Gabriel St.
Daniel Gordon.....	M. McMillan.....	Indian Lands, &c.
R. C. Swinton, (Miss'y).	.....	Melbourne.
*J. C. Quin.....	.....	Osnabruck.
*Donald Fraser, A. M.....	John Redpath.....	Montreal, Cotè Street.
William Scott.....	.....	St. Eustache.
Ewen McLean, (Miss'y).	.....	Lingwick, &c.
Duncan Cameron.....	Niel Stewart.....	Vankleek Hill.
*James McConechy.....	J. McFarlane.....	Leeds.

DONALD FRASER, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

*Donald McKenzie.....	Donald Campbell.....	Zorra.
*Daniel Allan.....	S. Rutherford.....	North Easthope.
*Thomas McPherson.....	B. Rigg.....	Stratford.
W. Graham.....	Robert Turnbull.....	Egmondville.
*Robert Wallace.....	Alexander Gordon.....	Ingersoll.
*W. R. Sutherland.....	*James Allan.....	Ekfrid and Mosa.
*Angus McColl.....	.....	Chatham.
Lachlan McPherson.....	W. Whyte.....	Williams.
*W. S. Ball.....	*Andrew Smith.....	Woodstock.
Duncan McMillan.....	Angus McKay.....	Aldboro.
*John Scott.....	*W. Begg	London.
*William King	.....	Buxton.
*John Ross.....	Robert Carnachan.....	Brucefield.
*D. McDiarmid.....	Donald McPherson.....	Woodstock (Gaelic.)
William Porterfield.....	.....	Plympton.
*William McLaren.....	*James Shaw.....	Amherstburgh.
*Andrew Tolmie.....	.....	Blandford.
.....	*Archibald Young.....	Port Sarnia.

Vacant Congregations and Stations—Fingal, St. Thomas, Dunwich, Thamesford, Saugeen, Bosanquet, Tilbury, Howard and Mitchell.

JOHN SCOTT, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*George Cheyne.....	*G. Bastedo.....	Saltfleet and Binbrook.
*M. Y. Stark.....	*Thomas Mair.....	Dundas.
*John Bayne, D. D.....	*M. C. Lutz.....	Galt.
*George Smellie.....	*James Ross.....	Fergus.
*Alexander McLean.....	*William Wilson.....	Wellington Square, &c.
*Samuel Young.....	.....	Guelph.
John McKinnon.....	.....	Owen Sound.
John Alexander.....	*James Monro.....	Niagara.
*Duncan McRuar.....	*W. McMillan.....	Blenheim and Paris.
*James Black.....	*Alex. Mitchell.....	Caledonia.
*Andrew J. McAuley.....	*J. McCalpin.....	Nassagaweya.
*Robert Irvine.....	*James Stewart.....	Hamilton.
	.....	Port Dover.
	Alex. McKenzie.....	Puslinch East.
	.....	Puslinch West.
	Salmon Minor.....	Dunnville.
		Ayr.
		Ancaster.

The following are Stations within the bounds of this Presbytery:—Brantford Doon Mills and New Aberdeen, Berlin and Woolwich, Owen Sound Road, Mornington and Wellesley, Allansville, Nairn Church, Flamboro', Walpole and Jarvis, St. Catherines, Thorold, &c., Port Rowan and Welland Port.

M. Y. CLARK, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

*Robert Burns, D.D.....	*J. McMurrich.....	Toronto, Knox's Church.
*M. Willis, D. D., Professor of Divinity.		
*James Harris.		
*James Finlay.....	*W. Heron.....	Whitby.
*Thomas Lowry.....	*John Holmes.....	West Gwillimbury
*William Reid, A. M.		
*William Meldrum.....	*D. Campbell.....	Vaughan.
*A. T. Holmes.....		Chinguacousy.
*Thomas Wightman.....	*John Brack.....	York Mills.
*John McLachlan.....	*Duncan Kennedy.....	Acton and Boston.
*G. P. Young, 2nd Prof. of Divinity.		
*James Boyd.....	*John Dixon.....	Markham.
*James Nisbet.....	*Robert Balmer.....	Oakville.
*Robert Ure.....	John Embleton.....	Streetsville.
*John Mitchell.....	.....	Brock and Reach.
*John Gray.	*H. Litster.....	Oro and Orillia.
*Joseph Alexander, A. M.	.....	Union and Norval.
*James Adams	*Samuel McCutcheon....	King.
*Robert McKenzie.....	*William Cross.....	Barrie, Innisfil, &c.
*John Laing.....	*William Young.....	Scarboro.
John Black.....	*Donald McLellan.....	Red River.

Thorah and Eldon, Caledon West and Erin, Mono and Caledon East, Oro (Gælic) and Medonte, Nottawasaga, Weston and Lambton, are also Stations within the bounds of this Presbytery.

THOMAS WIGHTMAN, *Presbytery Clerk.*

+ Jas. McAuley - Cooke's Church Toronto

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*James Douglass.....	.....	S. Cavan and Millbrook.
*Donald McLeod.....	*Andrew Jeffrey.....	Cobourg.
*J. M. Roger.....	*James Hall.....	Peterboro.
*John W. Smith.....	Geo. Inglis.....	Grafton and Colborne.
*W. J. McKenzie.....	*Geo. Ritchie.....	Baltimore & Coldsprings.
*Francis Andrews.....	*Thomas Short.....	Otonabee.
*John Smith.....	*J. McGlaughlin.....	Darlington.
*D. M. McAleese.....	Kenneth Kempt.....	Norwood.
*Robert Boag..	.....	Cartwright & Manvers.
.....	Edward Sanderson.....	North Cavan.
.....	.....	Trenton and Murray.
.....	.....	Percy and Alnwick.
.....	.....	Warsaw.

J. W. SMITH, *Presbytery Clerk.*

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the names of Mr. John Black, Minister at Red River Settlement, and Mr. Donald McLellan, who holds a commission from the Session of Red River Settlement, be added to the Roll of the Presbytery of Toronto.

The Synod then proceeded to elect their Moderator, when, on motion made and seconded, Rev. Henry Gordon was unanimously chosen Moderator for the year, and took the Chair.

After an appropriate address from the Moderator, the Synod proceeded to business.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved to return to Mr. Wightman the thanks of the Synod for his able and appropriate Sermon. The Moderator accordingly tendered to Mr. Wightman the thanks of the Synod.

It was agreed to observe the same order in regard to the terms of the daily meetings of Synod, viz.: from 9½—1, from 3—5, and 7½—10.

The Synod adjourned to meet this evening at half-past seven, to engage in devotional exercises. The diet was closed with prayer.

SECOND DIET.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY,
June 14, 1854, 7½ *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The Synod, according to appointment, engaged in devotional exercises, which were conducted by the Moderator, Dr. Burns, Mr. J. W. Smith, Mr. Melville, and Professor Young.

The Synod appointed the following Committee on Bills and Overtures, viz.:—The Moderator and Clerk of Synod, Mr. Wightman, Mr. Roger, Mr. Andrews, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Gregg, Mr. R. F. Burns, Mr. Boyd, Mr. McMurray, Mr. Wardrope, Mr. S. C. Fraser, Mr. Clark, Mr. D. Fraser, Mr. Quin, Mr. Scott, Mr. S. McPherson, Mr. Ball, Mr. Irvine, Dr. Bayne, Mr. S. Young, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Professor Young, Mr. Lowry, and Mr. Joseph Alexander, Ministers, and Messrs. Jeffrey, Hall, Kennedy, Court, Begg, Mair, Shaw, McMurrich, McCutcheon, elders, to meet to-morrow, at half-past eight, A. M.

The Synod granted leave to Presbyteries to meet for competent business during the Session of Synod.

The Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow at 10 o'clock, A.M., and the diet was closed with prayer.

THIRD DIET.

TORONTO, THURSDAY,
15*th June*, 1854, 10 *o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

After devotional exercises, the minutes of the two former Diets were read and sustained.

The Synod proceeded to appoint the Committees for revising the Synod Record, and the Records of the several Presbyteries.

The Synod appointed the Finance Committee, as follows, viz.: Rev. W. Gregg, Rev. G. Smellie, Mr. Court, Mr. Jeffrey, Mr. Ross, Mr. McMurrich, and Mr. Shaw, Elders—Mr. Gregg, Convener.

The Synod appointed the following Committee on the Statistical Accounts, viz.: Rev. S. C. Fraser, Rev. James Boyd, Rev. Joseph Alexander, Ministers, and Messrs. Hall and Mair, Elders.

The Synod appointed the following Committee to select Ministers to preach on Sabbath, viz.: Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Mr. Irvine, Mr. McLeod and Mr. D. Fraser—Dr. Burns, Convener.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to appoint a Committee to draw up a minute expressive of the feelings of Synod with reference to the loss sustained by the Church in the removal of Mr.

Gale, the late highly esteemed Moderator of Synod—the Committee to consist of Mr. Stark, Mr. Roger and Mr. Cheyne.

A Report was given in by the Committee on Bills and Overtures, along with several papers. The Synod sustained the Report of the Committee.

The Synod then called for the Report of the College Committee, which was given in and read by Dr. Willis, Convener of the Committee.

The Synod, generally, approved of the Report, and appointed the following Committee, viz.:—Mr. Clark, Mr. Lowry, Dr. Bayne, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Roger, Mr. Gregg, Mr. Wardrope, Mr. Scott, Dr. Willis, Professor Young, Ministers; and Messrs. Henning, Donald Kennedy, Court, A. Smith, Shaw, McMillan, McMurrich, and Jeffrey;—Mr. Clark Convener, to consider the points brought out in the Report, and prepare a deliverance to be submitted to the Synod.

The Synod then took up an overture from the Presbytery of Toronto with reference to the provisions of the Act requiring Ministers to make yearly returns of baptisms, marriages and funerals. The overture was read, and Mr. Lowry was heard in regard to it. The farther consideration of the overture was delayed until another Diet. The Diet was closed with prayer.

FOURTH DIET.

TORONTO, THURSDAY,
June 15, 1824, 3 *o'clock P. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod Roll was called, and the names of members present marked.

The Synod then took up a complaint and appeal against a decision of the Presbytery of Toronto, in the matter of a petition from the Gaelic portion of the King congregation, claiming the occasional use of the Church in King.

The papers connected with the case were read, and the Synod proceeded to hear parties, viz.: Dr. Burns and Mr. Lowry for the complainants, and Mr. Holmes for the Presbytery, when the hour of adjournment having come, the further consideration of the case was deferred until the evening sederunt. The Diet was then closed with prayer.

FIFTH DIET.

TORONTO, THURSDAY,
15*th June*, 1854, 7 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Presbytery again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Synod resumed consideration of the complaint and appeal in reference to the King case. Dr. Willis was heard on the part of the Presbytery. Messrs. Adams and Meldrum were also heard. Mr. Young proceeded to reply in behalf of the complainants, when in consequence of an alarm of fire in the neighbourhood, it became necessary for the Synod to adjourn. The Diet was closed with prayer.

SIXTH DIET.

TORONTO, FRIDAY,
June 16, 1854, 9½ *o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

A Report was given in by the Committee on Bills and Overtures, and various papers were transmitted.

On application duly made, the Synod granted leave to the Presbytery of London to take on trials for license Mr. James Ferguson, and Mr. Peter Currie, Students.

The Synod also granted leave to the Presbytery of Hamilton to take on trials for license Mr. David Wardrope, Mr. John Rennie, and Mr. Thomas S. Chambers, Students.

The Synod also granted leave to the Presbytery of Montreal to take on trials for license Mr. John Anderson, Student.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the complaint and appeal in regard to the King case. Professor Young concluded his reply in behalf of the appellants, and parties were then removed.

After lengthened discussion the following decision was come to by the Synod, viz.:—

Dismiss the complaint and appeal, and sustain the decision of the Presbytery appealed against; but with the view of furnishing directions to the Presbytery in the further management of the case, with reference to the points about which a difference of opinion appears to prevail,—declare that the Synod claims no power

of controling Congregations in regard to the use of their Churches for other than congregational purposes, according to the terms of fellowship, recognised in this body—find that there is no evidence to establish the assertion that the Gælic Congregation of King have any defined right to the use of the Church occupied by the English Congregation, and instruct the Presbytery that in dealing with the Congregation, they ought not so to separate the Minister from the Congregation as to issue injunctions to him alone, in matters which concern equally the rights and duties of the Congregation; and further, as it appears that there has been a display of much bad feeling on the part of some of the parties connected with the dispute in King, and at the same time, the origin of such feeling, or who are the parties chiefly to blame for its existence, has not been made apparent, direct the Presbytery to inquire into all the facts of the case, and to endeavour to bring about an amicable settlement of existing difficulties.

The Synod appointed its next meeting to take place in the City of Montreal, and within Cote Street Church there, on the second Thursday of June, 1855, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The sederunt was then closed with prayer.

SEVENTH DIET.

TORONTO, FRIDAY,
June 16, 1854, 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee charged with the preparation of a Book of Discipline. A report was given in by Mr. Smellie in behalf of the Committee. On motion made and seconded, it was resolved to receive the report of the Committee, to recommit the manuscript submitted to the Synod, to the Committee for further revision, with instructions to have it without delay printed and sent down for the examination of Presbyteries and Members of Synod.

The Diet was thereafter closed with prayer.

EIGHTH DIET.

TORONTO, FRIDAY,
June 16, 1854, 7 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Synod proceeded to bear a communication from the Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church of the United States of North America. It was unanimously agreed to refer it to a Committee to consider it fully, and report at a future diet; the Committee to consist of Dr. Burns, (Convener), Dr. Willis, Mr. McLaren, Mr. Henning, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. McLellan.

The Synod then took up a Memorial from Knox's Church, Hamilton, on the subject of Union with the United Presbyterian Church. In connexion with this there was read a series of Resolutions passed at a late meeting of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church on the desirableness of Union with this Church.

After lengthened reasoning on the subject, to which these documents referred, it was agreed to defer the further consideration of the subject until to-morrow morning.

The Diet was closed with prayer.

NINTH DIET.

TORONTO, SATURDAY,
June 17, 1854, 9½ *o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and constituted.

The Synod called for the Report of the Committee appointed to revise the Records of Synod and Commission. The Report was given in, and the Records were ordered to be attested in term of the Report as carefully and accurately kept.

Reports were given on the Records of the Presbyteries of London, Toronto, Kingston, Perth, and Brockville, and the Records were ordered to be severally attested in terms of the Reports.

The Synod also agreed to call the attention of the Presbytery of Brockville to an irregularity in licensing a Student without requiring from him all the ordinary pieces of trial. And in regard to the admission of the Rev. James Sinclair, the Synod find the proceedings of the Presbytery of Brockville to be contrary to the rules of the Church and therefore null and void, direct them to begin *de novo*, and proceed according to the rules of the Church, and before finally admitting Mr. Sinclair, to report the case to next Synod.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the papers on the subject of Union with the United Presbyterian Church.

After lengthened reasoning it was, without a vote, Resolved—

That this Synod having considered the memorial from the Congregation of Knox's Church, Hamilton, and the Resolutions of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church anent union between that body and this Synod, express their earnest desire to see that object attained, provided that it can be attained on scriptural principles; declare their willingness to consider opinions on the question of the lawfulness of State Endowments, without Erastian submission to the State, as a matter of forbearance, but continue to consider the views which they always held, and formerly expressed by their Committee on the duty of the Civil Magistrate, and the responsibility of nations to God, to be of such vital importance as to demand that they be made a term of ecclesiastical incorporation, and believe the practical effects resulting from the principles referred to, to be of such a character as to render the maintaining of these principles in all their integrity necessary to the best interests of the Church of Christ.

And further, that this Synod, while convinced that no union which ignores these principles can be effected, or if effected, can prove beneficial, nevertheless, appoint a Committee to confer with the Committee of the United Presbyterian Church, and to devise, in accordance with the terms of this deliverance, measures which may conduce to harmony of opinion and action on this and all other points of doctrine and practice which this Church holds vital, and, when practicable, to the effecting of a proper and lasting union:—TheCommittee to consist of Dr. Bayne, Dr. Willis, Dr. Burns, Professor Young, Messrs. Donald McKenzie, M. Y. Stark, R. Ure, W. Gregg, R. Boyd, J. M. Roger, J. B. Duncan, D. Fraser, J. Scott, W. McLaren, Ministers, and Messrs. J. Shaw, W. Begg, J. Hall, J. Court, A. Smith, W. Heron, W. McMillan, and D. Kennedy—Mr. Ure to be Convener.

The Synod adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M., and the diet was closed with prayer.

TENTH DIET.

TORONTO, SATURDAY,
June 17, 1854, 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod appointed the four quarterly Collections to be taken up in the same order as last year, viz.:—

For French Canadian Mission, on the 3rd Sabbath of July.

For Buxton Mission and Synod Fund, on the 3rd Sabbath of October.

For Foreign and Jewish Missions, on the 3rd Sabbath of January.

For Widows' and Orphans' Fund, on the 3rd Sabbath of April.

The Synod called for the returns of Presbyteries in regard to the minute proposed to be adopted with reference to certain passages in

the Confession of Faith. It appeared that six Presbyteries approved substantially of the minute, while two disapproved. The Synod accordingly declared the minute to be approved, and ordered it to be prefixed to any edition of the Confession of Faith which may be published by the authority of this Church. The minute is in the following terms:—

The Synod, in declaring their adherence, as they now again do, to the Confession of Faith, as approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the year 1647, hereby declare that they do not understand the passages relating to the duty of the civil magistrate, as teaching or sanctioning an Erastian control of the Church by the civil magistrate or the persecution of individuals for conscience sake; principles which the Synod heartily disclaim as inconsistent with the liberty wherewith Christ has made his people free—opposed to the spirit and terms of the said Confession, and repudiated by the Church in her purest and best times.

The Committee appointed to consider the various points embraced in the College Report, presented a Report embodying the following Deliverance, which the Synod adopted, viz.:—

1st. The Synod is of opinion that an effort should immediately be made for building a College; and with a view to this, appoints a Committee to draw up an address to the various congregations of the Church on the subject of College buildings, to collect subscriptions for that object, to choose and purchase a site when the proper time shall have arrived, and to report progress to the Commission in October; power being granted to the Commission to give what injunctions it deems proper to the Committee in regard to the actual erection of buildings, to such an extent as the state of the Fund may warrant.

2nd. As a considerable time must elapse before the contemplated College can be raised, the Synod empowers the College Committee to retake for two years the two houses at present occupied in Front street, at the rent of £85 per annum for each.

3rd. It being necessary to make some arrangement for carrying on the preparatory classes, in consequence of Mr. Laing's acceptance of the pastoral charge of the Congregation in Scarborough, the Synod directs the College Committee to engage the services of Mr. Smith, Head Master of the Toronto Academy, to take charge of the preparatory classes of English, Latin, Greek and Mathematics. At the same time impressed with a conviction of the importance of a thorough English education, the Synod requires its Students at an early stage of their curriculum, to be fixed by the College Committee, to take advantage of the classes for English composition and literature in University College.

4th. The Synod directs the College Committee likewise to enter into an arrangement with Mr. Smith, in regard to the superintendence of the Boarding Houses.

5th. The Synod does not think it necessary that any provision should in the meantime be made by the Church for teaching the Hebrew language, but directs its students to attend the Hebrew classes in University College, or such other institutions as the Professors' Court may approve of.

6th. The Synod places the management of the Bursary Fund in the hands of the Committee, instructing the Committee to apply the money—*first*, for the payment of Bursaries offered for eminence in different departments of study; and *next*, for aiding young men who may wish to devote themselves to the work of the Ministry, but may be unable to enter upon, or to proceed with, their studies

from want of means; it being understood that the Committee shall be at liberty to consider applications on behalf of such parties only, as have been recommended by their respective Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries.

7th. The Synod remits to the College Committee to consider the subject of supplementary lectures, and empowers the Committee to invite any party to prelect on a particular branch, if they think this desirable; leaving it with the College Committee at the same time to nominate the assessors for the Professors' Court.

8th. The Synod appoints the next Session of Knox's College to commence on the 1st of November, 1854, and to end on the last day of April, 1855.

9th. The Synod appoints Professor Young's salary to be £400 per annum.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the Report of the Committee on the Agency of the Church and the *Ecclesiastical and Missionary Record*, which was given in by Mr. Ure, Convener of the Committee. The Report, after stating the action of the Synod in regard to the matters devolved upon them by the Synod contained several recommendations including the following, viz.: that the duties connected with the Widows' Fund formerly devolved on the late Mr. Gale, be now transferred to Mr. Reid, agent for the schemes of the Church, and that Mr. Reid's salary be £300 per annum, and that the Record be continued on its present footing, and be published monthly.

The Synod agreed to sustain the Report, and adopt the various recommendations contained in it.

The Synod adjourned to meet on Monday at 10 o'clock, and the diet was closed with prayer.

ELEVENTH DIET.

TORONTO, MONDAY,
19*th June*, 1854, 10 *o'clock*, *A. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

A Report was given in by the Committee on Bills and Overtures along with several papers. The Synod sustained the Report.

Rev. M. Y. Stark, Convener of the Committee, appointed in this matter by the Synod, submitted a minute with reference to the decease of the late Mr. Gale. The Synod adopted the minute, as follows, and directed the Clerk to transmit a copy of it to the widow of their deceased Brother:—

The Synod has the painful duty of recording the decease, since its last meeting, of their esteemed and beloved father and brother, the Rev. Alexander Gale, who held the honorable position of their Moderator for the current year.

Many bereavements have of late afflicted our Zion, but none, it is believed, has been more deeply felt, or was fitted to have a more solemnizing influence throughout the Church, than the lamented death of one who was so intimately connected with her origin and progress in this land—to whose practical wisdom, patient industry, anxious and prayerful solicitude, and many and faithful labors she has been, under the blessing of the Divine Head, so much indebted. He took a lead in her first organization—participated in her early difficulties and discouragements—prayed and labored for her prosperity, and yet, while witnessing her outward extension and progress, took a prominent part in that measure which many dreaded as the death-blow to the Presbyterian cause in this land, but which he, together with others, strong in faith, convinced that the path of principle and of duty is the only path of true policy, resolved to hazard, in the assurance, that the Lord would overrule all for good; and he had his reward in seeing our Church come forth from the trial, purified, and inspired with new life, devotedness and efficiency.

It would be unsuitable here to give a narrative of Mr. Gale's life and devoted labors in the cause of Christ, or even to give a minute delineation of his character. But his brethren of the Synod feel themselves called on to put on record their high sense of his many estimable qualities as a man—his substantial talents—his fine business habits—his extensive acquirements, and, in some respects, peculiar gifts as a minister of the gospel, and especially the deep and simple piety, and the earnest, unselfish devotedness, which, amid many trials and sacrifices, remarkably characterised the later period of his ministry. Together with great mildness and urbanity of manner, he exhibited much firmness of purpose, the result of strong convictions, and a deep concern for the prevalence of sound principles and of vital godliness.

His brethren who knew him, feel that they have lost in him a valued friend. Our congregations, amongst whom he was extensively known, mourn over him as one whose presence and ministrations were savory to them, and whose remembrance is precious. The Church at large feels that a master in Israel has fallen; one on whose counsels they readily relied; in whose singleness and firmness of purpose they placed so much confidence, and whose ready co-operation and willing labors they so freely obtained in every good work.

May the Lord overrule this bereavement to his own glory, and teach his people that while they may not trust in means or in instruments, but in God only, they ought to be diligent and faithful in His work while the day lasts, for the night cometh when no man can work.

In conclusion, the Synod would express their deep sympathy with the afflicted widow and family of the departed. It is their earnest prayer that the Lord may take them under his peculiar care, sanctify to them this present trying dispensation of His providence, and keep them by his almighty power through faith unto salvation.

The Synod resumed consideration of the Overture from the Presbytery of Toronto in regard to the registration of Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths.

It was unanimously agreed to approve of the Overture, and to appoint a Committee to draft a Petition praying for the repeal or alteration of the Act which requires Ministers to make returns of Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths—the Committee to consist of Mr.

Lowry, Convener, Dr. Burns, Mr. Stark, Mr. Reid, Professor Young and Messrs. McMurrich and Shaw.

The Synod then took up a reference from the Presbytery of Cobourg in regard to the case of a man who had separated from his wife seventeen years ago, on account of adultery, and had lately married another woman, and now applied to be admitted as a member of the Church.

It was moved by Dr. Bayne, and duly seconded—

That the Synod having considered the reference from the Presbytery of Cobourg, find that there is no evidence of the actual position in which the individual referred to stands in the matter about which advice has been asked for, except that he admits that he married a second time, his first wife being at the time alive, and with reference to the principle on which such cases should be decided, instruct the Presbytery that, by the laws of the Church no marriage can be counted lawful, which is not in harmony both with the divine law and the law of the State, when the latter is not in opposition to the divine; and further, as there appear to be peculiarities in the case of the individual to whom the reference relates, the Synod advise the Presbytery to deal faithfully and tenderly with him as they shall see fit, with a view to his spiritual benefit.

It was moved by Dr. Burns, and seconded by Dr. Willis,

That the Synod sustain the reference, but cannot recommend the applicant to receive religious privileges, nor even to the discipline of the Church, because there is proof that the first wife is still alive, and therefore his second marriage amounts to bigamy and adultery combined, and thus makes the individual in question liable, so far as appears, to the operation of the laws of the land as well as to the control of the divine law as recognized in the laws and constitution of this Church; and moreover, as it appears that there is no evidence that in the hardships of this case, any effort was made by the individual to obtain a divorce from his first wife.

The Roll was called, and the votes marked, when there voted for the first motion 40, and for the second 15, several having given no vote.

The first motion, that made by Dr. Bayne, was accordingly declared to be carried.

Dr. Burns dissented for reasons to be given in.

Rev. Thomas McPherson also dissented for reasons to be given in.

The Synod adjourned, to meet at 3 o'clock P. M., and the diet was closed with prayer.

TWELFTH DIET.

TORONTO, MONDAY,
19th June, 1854, 3 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Committee called for the Report of the Committee on the Rectories and Clergy Reserves. The Report was given in by Dr. Burns, Convener of the Committee. On motion made and seconded, it was, without a vote, agreed to sustain the Report, and authorize the Moderator and Clerk to memorialize the Legislature in terms of the Report, in favor of a bill for the entire secularization of the Clergy Reserves.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on Statistics, which was given by Rev. S. C. Fraser, Convener. The Synod agreed to sustain the Report, and ordered it to be printed in the *Record*, together with the Statistical Returns themselves, and further renew the injunction to Presbyteries to deal with congregations neglecting the stated collections, as they may see fit, and on the first meeting of Presbytery after each collection, to inquire of each member whether the collection has been made or not.

The Synod appointed a Committee to revise the Schedule annually sent down to Presbyteries and Congregations, with the view of making it more perfect, viz: Mr. Samuel Young, Convener, Mr. Smellie, Dr. Bayne, and Mr. John McMurrich.

The Synod adjourned to meet at seven o'clock, and the diet was closed with prayer.

THIRTEENTH DIET.

TORONTO, MONDAY,
19th June, 1854, 7 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod proceeded to take up the subject of the state of Religion. The Report was read by Mr. McLeod, Convener of the Committee. Each of the Presbyteries had given in a Report; these

Reports had been compared and condensed, and the result was now laid before the Synod.

Mr. Smith, of Ramsay, on the call of the Moderator, gave a statement of some facts, illustrative of a hopeful movement, and of spiritual impressions made in the part of the country with which he is connected. Other ministers of the Presbytery of Perth, and one of the elders in the district noticed the same thing, and the Synod felt a call for grateful recognition of the hand of God in these symptoms, whereupon several ministers engaged in prayer and thanksgiving, and the Rev. Dr. Taylor, Professor of Theology in the United Presbyterian Church, also led the devotions of the meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Roger, seconded by Dr. Willis, and agreed to,

That the Report be received and adopted, and that the Synod record their sense of gratitude to God for every hopeful symptom of his presence and blessing; they also recommended that the interesting facts illustrative of these matters, may be published from time to time in the pages of the Record. They also instruct the members of the Presbytery of Perth, within whose bounds these symptoms have appeared, to take a continued interest in the work, and make further inquiry as to its nature and results, and communicate the result of their enquiries to the Conveners of the Committee.

The Synod adjourned, to meet to-morrow morning at 9½ o'clock, and the diet was closed with prayer.

FOURTEENTH DIET.

TORONTO, TUESDAY,
20th June, 1854, 9½ *A. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

Reports were given in on the Records of the Presbyteries of Kingston, Brockville, Perth, Montreal, London, Hamilton, Toronto and Cobourg. These Records were ordered to be attested, as on the whole correctly kept.

The Synod, however, enjoined the Presbytery of Montreal at the first meeting, at which the Rev. Mr. Gordon of Indian Lands shall be present, to require from him an assent to the questions and formula which are appointed to be proposed to Ministers at their induction, the Presbytery having omittted to require this assent from Mr. Gordon at the time of his induction.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the following Overture from the Elders attending the present meeting of Synod:—

"Whereas the necessaries of life have increased nearly one-half in price, with every prospect of continuing at a very high rate, and as the present stipends of the Ministers of our Church, based upon former low prices, are wholly inadequate to their maintenance in a suitable and respectable manner, we, the Elders attending the present meeting, do respectfully Overture the Synod to raise the minimum of stipend from £100 to £150 per annum, and urgently to recommend to the different congregations of our Church an increased liberality in the payment of Ministers, so as to enable them to meet the altered circumstances of the country.

And whereas we consider it of great importance that this duty should be recognized by the different congregations, we would suggest to the Synod the desirableness of appointing deputations to visit each congregation, with the view of bringing the matter fully and faithfully before them.

(Signed) ANDREW SMITH, *Chairman.*
THOMAS HENNING, *Secretary.*

After hearing several members of the Court in support of the Overture, it was agreed

That the Synod approve of the spirit of the Overture, and acknowledge the kind consideration which has prompted this movement on the part of the Elders, declare that the altered circumstances of the country plainly call for an increase in the stipends of Ministers of the Gospel, appoint a Committee to issue an affectionate and urgent appeal to Deacons'-Courts, Managers or Trustees, to consider their duty in regard to the support of Ministers in an adequate manner, and remit to Presbyteries to adopt such measures by visitation or otherwise as may tend to bring this matter fully before the notice of congregations: the Committee to consist of Messrs. Shaw, Convener, McMurrich, Henning, McLellan and Andrew Smith.

The Synod adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M., and the diet was closed with prayer.

FIFTEENTH DIET.

TORONTO, TUESDAY,
20th June, 1854, 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod then proceeded to take up an Overture from the Presbytery of London on the subject of the establishment of a Weekly Newspaper. The Overture was read, and Mr. King and others were heard in support of it. The Synod adopted the following deliverance, viz.:—

The Synod, while not prepared to take any action as a Synod in the establishment of a Weekly Paper of the character referred to in the Overture, is yet deeply sensible of the importance of such a Paper, and would rejoice to see it in vigorous and successful operation.

The Synod then adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock, and the diet was closed with prayer.

SIXTEENTH DIET.

TORONTO, TUESDAY,
20th June, 1854, 7 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod proceeded to take up an overture from the Presbytery of Montreal, on the subject of Foreign Missions. The overture was read, and Mr. Fraser was heard in support of it.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed, cordially,

To approve of the overture, and to appoint, as the Synod do, Mr. D. Fraser Mr. Inglis, Mr. W. B. Clark, Dr. Burns, Professor Young, Dr. Bayne, Mr. Scott and Mr. Reid, ministers, and Messrs. Redpath, Court, Richardson, McMurrich, and Shaw, elders, Mr. Fraser, Convener, to be a Committee on Foreign Missions, instructing them to use all diligence in selecting one or more ministers, preachers, or students, who may be qualified and willing to go abroad, and labor in the Foreign field, it being understood, that in the event of the Committee being led to select any locality where missionaries of the Free Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, or the Presbyterian Church of England, are laboring, any laborers sent forth by this Church, be instructed to co-operate with such missionaries.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Home Mission Committee. A verbal Report was given in by Mr. Ure, Convener of Committee, who stated, that in consequence of Presbytery Clerks not having given in Reports, he had not been able to frame any general Report.

The Synod directed the Convener to collect from Presbyteries, information in regard to their Home Missionary operations, and digest these Reports for publication in the *Record*.

Rev. W. King presented to the Synod a special Report on the subject of the Buxton Mission.

The Synod, on motion made and seconded, agreed

To sustain the Report, and record their thanks to Mr. King, for his faithful and zealous services in connection with the Buxton Mission, and pledge themselves to encourage and sustain Mr. King in the work in which he is engaged.

The Synod appointed the Home Mission Committee, as follows, viz:—The Moderator, Dr. Burns; Dr. Willis, Messrs. Irvine, Lowry, Ure, Professor Young, Mr. Reid, Dr. Bayne, Messrs. Stark, McRuar, D. McKenzie, Scott, T. McPherson, Sutherland, J. M. Roger, John Smith, McLeod, Gregg, R. F. Burns, McMurray, Boyd, Duncan, Wardrope, D. Fraser. Quin, Inglis and Clark, Ministers, with Messrs. Begg, McLellan, Mair, McMillan, Stewart, McMurrich, Redpath, Henning, Shaw, Jeffrey, and McGlashan, Elders: Mr. Ure, Convener.

Dr. Burns, on the part of the Committee appointed in the matter, reported the draft of a reply to the communication from the Free Presbyterian Church in the United States.

The Synod sustained the Report, and ordered the letter to be signed by the Moderator and Clerk, and transmitted to the proper quarter. The Synod further appointed a Committee, consisting of Dr. Burns, Convener, Dr. Willis, Mr. McLaren, Mr. Henning, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. McMillan, to correspond further with the Free Presbyterian Church in the United States, with the view of obtaining more definite information in regard to their position and operations.

The Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow at 10 o'clock, and the diet was closed with prayer.

SEVENTEENTH DIET.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY,
June 21, 1854, 10 *o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Synod called for the Report of the Finance Committee. The Report was given in by Mr. Gregg, Convener. On motion made and seconded, it was agreed to sustain the Report.

The Synod thereafter called for the Committee on Sabbath Observance. The same was given in by Mr. R. F. Burns, Convener of the Committee.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed—

To sustain the Report and adopt the recommendations contained in it, especially to petition the Legislature for the abolition of Sabbath labour in the Post Office Department, and the closing of the Canals. The Synod further approved the diligence of the Committee: re-appointed the Committee, and directed them to use all diligence in seeking to check the prevailing sin of Sabbath desecration.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools. A verbal report was given by Mr. Gregg, Convener the Committee. The Synod sustained the Report, and reappointed the Committee, instructing them to prepare, in a separate form, a series of lessons for Sabbath Schools, and to adopt such other means as they may see to be best for promoting the progress and efficiency of Sabbath Schools.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the Report of the Committee on the Widows' Fund scheme.

After deliberation it was, on motion made and seconded, agreed,

That Mr. Reid be appointed to the office of Superintendent of the Widows' Fund, that fund being assessed for the payment of his salary in the proportion agreed on by the Agency Committee; that Mr. Reid and Mr. McMurrich be appointed a Committee to prepare for publication a statement of the condition of the Fund; and that the General Committee be directed to correspond with Presbyteries for the purpose of bringing the scheme under their continued notice, and leading them to adopt such measures as they may deem fit for inducing those congregations within their bounds, which have not adequately contributed to this important object, still to do the part which may equitably be expected from them.

The Home Mission Committee having brought under the notice of the Synod that the Presbytery of Hamilton had received the Rev. John McKay, Preacher of the Gospel, without due regard to the rules of the Church, the Synod find that in the admission of Mr. McKay, the Presbytery appears to have overlooked the letter of the rule of the Church in such cases, to which the Synod would call the attention of the Presbytery in future; the Synod, however, recognizing the design of the Presbytery to carry out the intention of the law in question, agree in the particular circumstances of the case to acknowledge Mr. McKay from this date as a Preacher of the Gospel in connexion with this Church.

The Synod then proceeded to take up an overture on the subject of Intemperance. The Synod resolved to approve the overture and adopt the recommendations contained in it, and in terms thereof agreed to adopt and advocate the practice of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks as a beverage, as essential to the full influence of the Church on the world as well as on its own adherents. The Synod also agreed to petition the Legislature for the enactment of a law to prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage.

The Synod adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M., and the diet was closed with prayer.

EIGHTEENTH DIET.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY,
June 21, 1854, 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod took up an overture from the Elders in attendance on the meeting of Synod in regard to the importance of Congregations bearing the expenses of Ministers in attending meetings of Presbytery and Synod. It was unanimously agreed by the Synod to approve of the overture, and to express their sense of the considerate spirit which had led to the overture before the house. The Synod, in terms of the overture, strongly recommend to Congregagations to make provision for meeting the expenses both of Ministers and Elders in attending meetings of Synod and Presbytery.

The Synod also took up an overture from the Elders on the subject of Psalmody. The Synod unanimously agreed to approve of the overture, and to recommend to their people to conjoin praise with prayer and the reading of the Word of God in the exercises of family worship; and, further, the Synod recommended to Sessions and Presbyteries to give due attention to the improvement of Psalmody within their several bounds.

The Synod, considering the present prosperity of the country and the favourable position of the College Fund, authorized the College Committee, if they shall see cause, in acknowledging the generous aid rendered by the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland to Knox's College in years past, to inform them that such aid may now be dispensed with.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed—

To appoint a Committee to draw up a Loyal Address to Her Majesty with reference to the present position of the British Empire; the Committee to consist of Dr. Willis, Convener, Prof. Young, Dr. Bayne, Mr. Irvine, Mr. Heron and Mr. Shaw.

The address drawn up by the Committee were in the following terms:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY—

We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the ministers and elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in Synod assembled, beg leave to approach the throne, to express our firm attachment to your Majesty and to the British Government.

It is our pride to cherish, in these trans-atlantic parts of your Majesty's dominions, the name of Britons, and we appreciate it as a signal Providential bless-

ing, of which every day is only illustrating the value to dwell in a territory protected by your Majesty's sceptre, sacred to freedom, and participating in the benefits of British law and order.

At a time when our beloved country is involved in the calamities of war, in protection of European rights, and in asserting great principles of the law of nations, we feel it peculiarly incumbent upon us to proffer to your Majesty the assurance of our unfaltering fidelity to the constitution we live under, and to assure your Majesty of our constant prayers to the great Ruler over all, that the present struggle may be brought to a prosperous issue, as well as conducted in that spirit of regard to the laws of humanity and honour, which has reflected a lustre, heretofore, on the British arms, and may give a fresh proof to the world, that the power of Britain is founded on a love of righteousness, and used for the furtherance of the world's peace.

That it may please the Great God of Heaven and Earth, to bless your Majesty, and your Majesty's Royal Consort, and all the members of the Royal Family, with every temporal and spiritual blessing, and to protect and favour your Majesty's fleets and armies, is the prayer—may it please your Majesty—of your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects.

Signed in the name of the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

——— *Moderator.*

Dr. Burns, as Convener of the Committee for the reception of Dr. Duff, reported that that eminent Missionary had visited the United States and Canada, and that the Synod's Committee had endeavoured to the best of their ability to make the necessary arrangements for his reception amongst us. These had been carried out successfully, and the visit of Dr. Duff to our principal cities, and his various addresses had been the means of much satisfaction, and it is hoped, of edification to our people.

The Synod having heard this statement unanimously concurred in the tenor of it, and agreed to record their high sense of the benefits which had accrued from Dr. Duff's visit, and their earnest wishes for his continued usefulness in the great work to which the Head of the Church has called him.

The Synod appointed the following Ministers and Elders as the Commission of Synod, to hold one ordinary meeting at Toronto on the last day of October, at three o'clock P. M.; namely, the Moderator and Clerk of Synod, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Mr. Lowry, Prof. Young, Messrs. McLeod, J. M. Roger, John Smith, Gregg, R. F. Burns, R. Boyd, McMurray, S. C. Fraser, Wardrope, Duncan, D. Fraser, Quin, Inglis, Clark, D. McKenzie, Scott, T. McPherson, Irvine, Cheyne, Smellie, Wightman, Ure, and Dr. Bayne, Ministers; and Messrs. Shaw, McMurrich, Henning, Kennedy, Court, Begg, McMillan, Stewart and Mair, Elders.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved to record the thanks of the Synod to the Office-bearers and Trustees of Knox's Church, Toronto, for the comfortable accommodation

provided in that Church for the Synod during its Sessions at this time.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved to record the thanks of the Synod to the friends in Toronto, for the hospitality so kindly extended to the Ministers and Elders of the Synod on this occasion.

The business being now concluded, the Moderator addressed the Synod, and announced that the next ordinary meeting of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada would be held in the City of Montreal, and within Cote Street Church there, on the second Thursday of June, 1855, at eleven o'clock, P.M.

After prayer, and the singing of part of the 122nd Psalm, the Synod was closed with the benediction.

APPENDIX.

Committees appointed by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

The Moderator, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Messrs. Lowry, Ure, Young, Reid, J. M. Roger, McLeod, John Smith, Gregg, Burns, R. Boyd, McMurray, Duncan, Wardrope, D. Fraser, Inglis, Clark, Quin, D. McKenzie, Scott, Thomas McPherson, Sutherland, King, Irvine, Stark, McRuar, and Dr. Bayne, Ministers; and Messrs. McMurrich, Shaw, Henning, Jeffrey, McGlaughlin, Stewart (Kingston), Redpath, Court, Kennedy of Bytown, Begg, McMillan, McLellan and Mair, Elders. Rev. R. Ure, Streetsville, Convener.

COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

The Moderator, Dr. Bayne, Messrs. D. McKenzie, Scott, Lowry, Ure, Reid, McLeod, W. J. McKenzie, Gregg, R. Boyd, Geggie, Wardrope, Duncan, Henry D. Fraser, Clark, Irvine and Dr. Burns, Ministers; and Messrs. Mair, McMurrich, Shaw, Henning, Jeffrey, Hall, Stewart, Kennedy, Redpath and Richardson, Elders; together with the Professors of Knox's College, and Messrs. John Shaw, S. Spreull, and Alex. McGlashan of Toronto. Dr. Willis, Convener.

COMMITTEE ON STATE OF RELIGION.

Messrs. McLeod, D. Fraser, R. Boyd, Duncan, Smith of Ramsay, R. F. Burns, Scott, Dr. Bayne, Dr. Willis, and John Gray, Ministers; and Messrs. Court, Stewart of Kingston, and McMurrich, Elders. Messrs. McLeod and Fraser, Joint Conveners.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE.

Rev. R. F. Burns, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, the Moderator, Messrs. Gregg, Reid, Lowry, D. Fraser and John Gray, Ministers; and Messrs. James Stewart, Redpath, Robertson and McMurrich, Elders. Rev. R. F. Burns, Convener.

SABBATH SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Messrs. Gregg, R. F. Burns, J. W. Smith, W. J. McKenzie. Mr. Gregg, Convener.

AGENCY AND RECORD COMMITTEE.

Mr. Ure, Dr. Bayne, Professor Young, Mr. Irvine, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Ministers; and Messrs. Shaw, McMurrich and McLellan, Elders. Dr. Burns, Convener.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ISSUE AN ADDRESS IN REGARD TO THE SUSTENTATION OF THE MINISTRY.

Messrs. Shaw, McMurrich, Henning, McLellan, A. Smith of Woodstock. Mr. Shaw, Convener.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO TAKE STEPS FOR THE ERECTION OF COLLEGE BUILDINGS.

Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Prof. Young, Rev. R. Irvine, Rev. W. B. Clark, Rev. D. McLeod, J. McMurrich, John Shaw, S. Spreull, Toronto; J. Stewart, J. Buchanan, J. Fisher, Hamilton; Judge Millar, Dundas; Mr. Christie, Niagara; A. Smith, Woodstock; W. Clark and W. Begg, London; A. McKellar, Chatham; A. Young, Port Sarnia; C. H. Morgan, A. Jeffrey, Cobourg; D. Kennedy, G. Hay, Bytown; Mr. Toshach, Ramsay, J. Redpath, J. Court, W. Murray, Montreal; J. Gibb, J. Ross, Jas. Hossack, Quebec; A. D. Ferrier, Fergus; J. Paterson, Streetsville; P. Cook, M. C. Lutzy, Galt; N. Stewart, Vankleekhill; Mr. Caltanach, Lochiel; T. Short, Otonabee; K. Kemp, Norwood; J. Hall, Peterboro; J. Miller, Jas. Stewart, Kingston; J. Keith, Belleville; Hon. J. McDonald, Gananoque; D. Mathieson, Embro; Sheriff Sherwood, Brockville; Mr. Campbell, Prescott; with power to add to their number. J. McMurrich, Toronto, Convener.

COMMITTEE ON UNION WITH UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Dr. Bayne, Dr. Willis, Dr. Burns, Prof. Young, Messrs. Donald McKenzie, M. Y. Stark, R. Ure, W. Gregg, R. Boyd, J. M. Roger, J. B. Duncan, D. Fraser, J. Scott, W. McLaren, Ministers; and Messrs. Shaw, Begg, Hall, Court, A. Smith, Heron, McMillan and Kennedy, Elders. Mr. Ure, Streetsville, Convener.

COMMITTEE FOR PREPARATION OF BOOK OF DISCIPLINE.

Mr. Smellie, Dr. Willis, Mr. Irvine and Mr. Lowry. Mr. Smellie and Dr. Willis, Joint Conveners.

COMMITTEE FOR CORRESPONDING WITH FREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S.

Dr. Burns (Convener), Dr. Willis, Mr. McLaren, Mr. Henning, Mr. D. Kennedy and Mr. W. McMullen.

Reports of Presbyteries.

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

The Presbytery of Kingston have to report the following particulars for the past year:—

1st. The Rev. William Reid has been called from the Congregation of Picton to become agent of the Church's schemes and editor of the Record.

2nd. The Rev. Andrew Wilson has been inducted as Pastor of the Brock-street Congregation, Kingston.

W. GREGG, *Clerk.*

12th June, 1854.

No changes are reported by the Presbyteries of Brockville and Perth.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

INDUCTION.

1st. Rev. W. B. Clark, late of the Free Church, Maxwellton, Dumfries, to be Minister of Chalmers' Free Church, Quebec, on 21st June, 1853.

ORDINATIONS.

1. Mr. Ewen McLean, Probationer, ordained as Missionary at Lingwick and Winslow, on 2nd Nov., 1853.

2. Mr. Duncan Cameron, Probationer, ordained as Minister at Vankleek Hill, on 3rd March, 1854.

REPONEMENT.

1. Mr. James McConechy restored to the status of a Preacher on 2nd Nov., 1853, and inducted as Minister at Leeds on 15th March, 1854.

TRANSLATIONS.

1. Rev. Daniel Gordon, translated from Lingwick to Indian Lands, and inducted there on 17th August, 1853.

2. Rev. Robert C. Swinton, translated from St. Louis de Gonzague to Richmond as Missionary, on 7th Sept., 1853.

3. Rev. Alexander Cameron, Missionary at Lochiel, transferred to Free Presbytery of Nairn, Scotland, with a view to his induction as Minister at Ardersier, on 30th Nov., 1853.

DEMISSIONS.

1. Rev. William Troup loosed at his own request, from charge at English River, on 2nd Nov., 1853.

2. Rev. J. C. Quin loosed at his own request from charge at Cornwall, retaining Osnabruck, on 2nd Nov., 1853.

Respectfully submitted to the Synod.

D. FRASER, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

The Presbytery of London beg to report the following particulars for the past year:—

1. The Rev. D. McMillan, formerly of Caledon, was inducted as Pastor of the Congregation at Aldborough on 20th October, 1853.

2. The Rev. W. Porterfield, late of Dunnville, was inducted into the pastoral charge of the Congregation at Plympton on the 31st May, 1854.

3. The Rev. J. Fraser demitted the pastoral charge of the Congregation of St. Thomas, and his resignation was accepted by the Presbytery on the 10th May, 1854.

JOHN SCOTT, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

Report of Deaths, Inductions, &c., Presbytery of Hamilton, during past year:

1st. During the past year, the Rev. George Paxton Young has been called from the charge of Knox's Church, Hamilton, to be a Professor in Knox's College, Toronto.

2nd. The Rev. Andrew Wilson, late of Port Dover, has been translated to Brock-street Church, Kingston.

3rd. The Rev. William Porterfield has been translated to Plympton within the bounds of the Presbytery of London.

4th. The Rev. Robert Lyndsay, of Ayr, has resigned his charge there.

5th. The Rev. Alexander Gale has been removed by death.

6th. Mr. James Black has been licensed and ordained to the charge of the Congregation at Caledonia.

7th. Mr. Nicholson, student, has been licensed.

8th. Rev. Andrew J. McAuley has been inducted to the pastoral charge of the Congregation at Nassagaweya; and

9th. The Rev. Robert Irvine to that of the Congregation of Knox's Church, Hamilton.

M. Y. STARK, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

Report of cases of license, ordination and induction of Ministers within the bounds of the Presbytery of Toronto, from June, 1853, to June, 1854:—

1ST. CASES OF LICENSE.

Mr. John Laing and Mr. Henry MacMeekin were licensed by the Presbytery of Toronto on the 6th July, 1853.

2ND. CASE OF ORDINATION.

Rev. John Laing was ordained Pastor of the Congregation in Scarborough, on the 6th day of June, 1854.

3RD. CASES OF INDUCTION.

Rev. William Meldrum was inducted to the Pastoral charge of the Congregation in Vaughan, on the 11th day of January, 1854: and Rev. Robert McKenzie was inducted to the Pastoral charge of the Congregations at Barrie, Innisfil and Essa, on the 30th day of May, 1854.

THOS. WIGHTMAN, *Presbytery Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The Presbytery of Cobourg report that they have had no pastoral settlements during the past year, but that there are nine settled Pastors within their bounds.

That on the 5th day of July, 1853, they licensed Mr. Samuel Kedy, Student of Knox's College, to preach the Gospel.

On the 20th Sept., they licensed Mr. James Tait, Student of Divinity of Knox's College.

On the 7th Feb., 1854, they licensed Mr. William Blain, Student of Divinity of Knox's College, to preach the Gospel.

On the 7th February, 1854, Rev. J. M. Roger resigned the pastoral superintendence of the Congregation of North Cavan, the vast increase of Mr. Rogers' flock and the extent of his field of labour, rendering this step necessary.

On the same day, Rev. D. McAleese resigned the pastoral care of Warsaw, one of his Stations, the distance and the state of the roads rendering it impossible for him to afford them the attention they require.

JOHN W. SMITH, *Presbytery Clerk.*

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THE

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Canada,

AT ITS SESSIONS AT MONTREAL,

JUNE 14–20, 1855.

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